



Thrush

A yeast infection (Candidiasis)



Signs

- Thrush may occur in the mouth.
- The first sign of thrush may be reluctance to eat because of a sore mouth.
 - You will be able to see patchy white spots on baby's lips, tongue, gums and the roof of the mouth or inside the cheeks.
 - The white patches look like milk curds.
 - If the white patches are scraped off, the skin underneath may be red and/or bleed.
- Baby may have a fever.
- Thrush may also occur in the diaper area or other moist areas.
- The thrush skin rash usually appears as red skin with small white, raised bumps and may cover the entire diaper area.
- This rash does not respond to usual treatment for diaper rash such as airing the diaper area or using diaper rash ointments.



What to Know

To prevent the spread of thrush:

- Wash hands before and after baby care.
- Thoroughly clean contaminated articles such as pacifiers, bottles, nipples, toys, teething rings, etc., with hot, soapy water, and dry completely.
- To keep baby from getting thrush or spreading it to other children, always keep baby's toys, pacifiers, bottles, etc., away from other children.

- If thrush occurs in the diaper area and cloth diapers are used, it is important to wash them in hot, soapy water and rinse completely.
- Cloth diapers should be washed separately from other laundry.



What to Do

- Contact your health care provider if you see signs of thrush.
- A prescription medication is needed to treat thrush in the mouth.
- Be sure to follow all the directions given with the medication.
 - Cleanse the mouth with a clean, moist washcloth prior to applying medication.
- Give the medication until it is all gone!
- If you are breastfeeding, your health care provider may instruct you to apply a small amount of your baby's medication to your nipples after baby has fed.
- Allow medication on mother's nipples to air dry.
- For thrush in the diaper area, over-the-counter, non-prescription medication is available. Check with your health care provider or a pharmacist for a recommendation.
- Remember to wash hands before and after baby care.

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When to Call Your Health Care Provider

- When signs of thrush are found.
- Watch for signs of thrush after the medication is all gone. Call your health care provider if the thrush reappears.

